

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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R 151735Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3655

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 BRUSSELS 3342

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR BE CG AO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AMBASSADOR MULCAHY; BELGIAN-ZAIRIAN RELATIONS;  
ANGOLA AND CABINDA

REF: KINSHASA 2727

1. SUMMARY. DURING VISIT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
MULCAHY, BELGIAN OFFICIALS COMMENTED ON ZAIRE AND PORTUGUESE  
TERRITORIES. RECENT BELGIAN-ZAIRIAN MEETING IN MALAGA  
WAS FIRST STEP IN RENEWAL OF DIALOGUE BETWEEN TWO SIDES AND TOOK  
PLACE AFTER DISPATCH OF BELGIAN EMISSARY TO KINSHASA.  
ZAIRIANS ARE FAILING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF 700 MILLION BF  
IN BELGIAN CREDITS. DISSATISFACTION WITH MOBUTO REPORTEDLY  
EXPRESSED BY ZAIRIAN GENERAL. BELGIANS HAVE REPORTS  
OF ANGOLAN LIBERATION TROOP MOVEMENTS. GOB SEES FACTORS  
MILITATING AGAINST ZAIRIAN OR CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE MOVE TO TAKE  
OVER CABINDA. END SUMMARY.

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2. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS  
MULCAHY MET WITH AFRICA DIRECTOR LEBRUN AND OTHER

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICERS APRIL 11 FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION  
ON AFRICA. CONVERSATION CENTERED ON ZAIRE AND PROTUGUESE  
TERRITORIES. FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTEREST EMERGED.

3. ZAIRIAN COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BULA AND DIRCTOR  
OF OFFICE OF PRESIDENCY BISENGIMANA FLEW TO MALAGA,  
SPAIN TO MEET WITH BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS  
AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSANDE APRIL 3 OR 4. (TINDEMANS  
AND VAN ELSLANDE BOTH HAVE RESIDENCES ON COAST OF SPAIN  
AND WERE THERE FOR HOLIDAY. CHARLES KERREMANS. BELGIAN  
AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE WAS ALSO IN SPAIN, AS GUEST OF  
AMBASSADOR VAES IN MADRID, BUT APPARENTLY DID NOT  
PARTICIPATE AT MALAGA.) LEBRUN SAID MEETING  
WAS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT IT AMOUNTED TO  
PRELUDE TO RENEWED DIALOGUE. ZAIRIANS LISTED  
OUTSTANDING GRIEVANCES AGAINST BELGIUM BUT INDICATED  
WILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE CONTACTS TO WORK OUR PROBLEMS.  
MEETING HAD COME ABOUT AFTER BOG CABINET DECIDED MARCH 21  
TO SEND SEPCIAL EMISSARY TO KINSHASA BEARING MEMORANDUM  
FOR GOZ ON ZAIRIANIZATION, BELGIAN AID, AND BELGIAN-  
ZAIRIAN DIALOGUE. MEMORANDUM STIMULATED DISPATCH OF  
ZAIRIANS TO MALAGA. LEBRUN SAID THAT REPORT IN  
"SPECIAL" THAT TINDEMANS WOULD SOON GO TO ZAIRE WAS  
NOT TRUE. BELGIANS DID NOT HAVE ANY INFORMATION  
ON CONTACTS BY BULA AND BISENGIMANA WITH POSSIBLE  
CREDITORS DURING EUROPEAN TRIP.

4. LEBRUN DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON FUTURE OF KERREMANS,  
WHO DEPARTED KINSAHAS ON "CONSULTATIONS" APRIL 2.  
HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT ZAIRIANS WERE "CONSUMING"  
BELGIA AMBASSADORS AT ACCELERATED RATE, AND REVIEWED  
ZAIRIAN CHARGES AGAINST KERREMANS, ALREADY REPORTED BY  
EMBASSY KINSHASA. LEBRUN ADDED POINT THAT IN VIEW OF  
KERREMENS' PREVIOUS SERVICE AS CHAMBERLAIN TO KING  
BAUDOUIN, MOBUTU MAY HAVE THOUGHT THAT HAVING KERREMANS  
IN KINSHASA WOULD GIVE GOZ DIRECTLINE TO KING. WHEN  
STOPOVER BY KING IN ZAIRE DURING RECENT AFRICA  
TRIP FELL THROUGH, MOBUTO THUS MAY HAVE BLAMED  
KERREMANS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, IN BELGIAN VIEW, ZAIRIAN

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CRITICISM OF KERREMANS AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE  
MAY BE DESIGNED TO DELAY SERIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH BELGIUM  
ON COMPENSATION FOR EXPRIPRIATED PROPERTIES, ALTHOUGH  
LEBRUN INDICATED THAT GOZ HAD ALREADY AGREED TO BEGIN  
PAYING COMPENSATION FOR LART OF TAKEOVERS IN 1976.  
(WE INFER FROM COMMENTS OF LEBRUN AND OF OTHER BELGIANS  
IN SEPARATE CONVERSATIONS THAT KERREMANS MAY EVENTUALLY  
RETURN TO KINSHASA ONLY FOR PRO FORMA PERIOD BEFORE  
DEPARTING PERMANENTLY.)

5 REGARDING CONTRETEMPS OVER SPECIAL "TRANCHE" OF  
300 MILLION BF IN EXPORT RISK GUARANTEES OFFERED  
BY GOB THROUGH OFFICE DU DUCROIRE, WHICH GOZ REJECTED  
(KINSHASA 2438), LEBRUN POINTED OUT THAT 300 MILLION IN  
GUARANTEES HAD NOTHEING TO DO WITH LINE OF CREDIT OF UP  
TO 700 MILLION BF OFFERED BY GOB IN 1972. LINE OF CREDIT,  
FOR WHICH NATIONAL BANKS OF BELGIJM AND ZAIRE NEVER WORKED  
OUT MODALITIES, WAS FOR GENERAL IMPORTS AND NOT LIMITED  
TO PHARMACEUTICALS AND FOODSTUFFS AS WAS 300 .MILLION BF  
IN GUARANTEES. THUS ZAIRIANS ARE NOT TAKING  
ADVANTAGE OF IMPORTANT IMPORT CREDITS. LEBRUN ALSO NOTED  
THAT PUBLIC REPORTS ON SUSPENSION OF DUCRIORE'S  
NORMAL GUARANTEES AND OFFERED OF SPECIAL TRANCE OF 300 MILLION BF  
HAD EVIDENTLY COME FROM DUCRIORE SOURCES BUT  
HAD NOT BEEN BASED ON DUCRIORE PRESS RELEASE AS BELIEVED  
BY ZAIRIANS. HE ADDED THAT THERE ARE 20 MILLION BF IN  
REQUESTS FOR DUCRIORE GUARANTEES OUTSTANDING.

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TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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R 151735Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3656

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 BRUSSELS 3342

6. FURTHER ON ZAIRIAN ECONOMY, BELGIANS DID NOT FEEL  
PROSPECTIVE 250 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN WOULD ALLEVIATE A SHORT

TERM PROBLEM, IN VIEW OF TOTAL EXTERNAL DEPT OF 2.2 BILLION DOLLARS. THEY NOTED IN PASSING THAT 16 MILLION DOLLARS OF 50 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN FROM ABU DHABI ALREADY RECEIVED. LEBRUN ALSO SAID THAT BELGIAN BANKS ARE ACCEPTING FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF CURRENT ORDERS FOR EXPORTS TO ZAIRE WITHOUT ATTACHING THEM FOR DEBTS ALREADY OWED (IN CONTRAST TO WALKER MEMO OF MARCH 20 ON GEMCAMES ASSETS).

7. ON ZAIRIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BELGIANS NOTED SOME DISSATISFACTION WITH MOBUTU BUT HAD NO INDICATION OF REAL THREAT TO REGIME. THEY CITED REPORT OF PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH PARACOMMANDO GENERAL BUMBA IN WHICH HE ALLEGEDLY CRITICIZED MOBUTU'S EXCESSES.

8. REGARDING PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES, BELGIANS SAID THEY DID NOT SEE THAT CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE WOULD HAVE MEANS OF  
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TAKING OVER CABINDA WITHOUT COLLABORATION OF MOBUTU, WHICH THEY DID NOT SEE AS LIKELY. MPLA IS TOO STRONG FOR CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE ALONE. THEY ALSO NOTED GOZ IS STUDYING DOSSIER DATING FROM COLONIAL PERIOD (1958) ON DELIMITATION OF ZAIRE-CABINDA CONTINENTAL SHELF. THEY READ THIS AS INDICATION THAT GOZ IS STUDYING PEACEFUL WAY TO ASSURE IT OBTAINS ACCEPTABLE PORTION OF OFFSHORE RESOURCES.

9. REFERRING TO MPLA PRESIDENT NETO'S RECENT VISIT TO BELGIUM (BRUSSELS 3153), BELGIANS SAID HE TOLD THEM THAT 1500 FNLA TROOPS, INCLUDING SOME MEMBERS OF ZAIRIAN ARMY, HAD MOVED INTO ANGOLA AT TIME OF RECENT CLASHES BUT HAD BEEN STOPPED BY PORTUGUESE MILITARY. HE HAD MAINTAINED, NEVERTHELESS, THAT ANGOLANS WOULD NOT NEED OUTSIDE HELP TO MAINTAIN ORDER. BELGIANS ALSO HAD REPORT OF FEW DAYS EARLIER FROM BELGIAN CONSUL IN LUBUMBASHI THAT ANGOLAN TROOPS WERE COMING INTO SHABA, BEING EQUIPPED AND ARMED, AND THEN RETURNED TO ANGOLA. BELGIANS NOTED THAT GOZ HAD REQUIRED BELGIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TEAMS TO WITHDRAW FROM ZAIRIAN BASES AT KITONA AND BANZA-NGUNGU BUT DID NOT KNOW WHAT CONNECTION THIS MIGHT HAVE WITH ANGOLA OR CABINA.  
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